

## Message Text

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73

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 AF-08 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 EA-09 ACDA-10 AID-05 /122 W

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R 311814Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3331

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS GEORGETOWN 1744

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GY

SUBJECT: BURNHAM'S SPEECH AT COLOMBO

SUMMARY: PRIME MINISTER BURNHAM'S BRIEF SPEECH AT THE NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT CONFERENCE CONTAINED STRONG CALL FOR COMBINED NAM ACTION TO BRING ABOUT A NEW ECONOMIC ORDER, FOR ASSISTANCE, DIRECT AND INDIRECT, TO SOUTHERN AFRICAN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS, A STRONG SLAP AT ISRAEL FOR DELIVERING MISSILE SHIPS TO SOUTH AFRICA, A REMINDER THAT IMPERIALISM IS NOT YET DEAD AND A DIG AT SOCIALIST COUNTRIES FOR THEIR LACK OF MATERIAL ASSISTANCE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. THE DIG AT SOCIALIST COUNTRIES WAS COMMENTED ON IN THE PRESS HERE. END SUMMARY.

1. FULL TEXT OF PRIME MINISTER BURNHAM'S SPEECH, WHICH BURNHAM DESCRIBED TO THE CHARGE AS BEING THE BRIEFEST STATEMENT MADE BY ANY HEAD OF DELEGATION AT THE COLOMBO NASC, IS BEING POUCHED TO DEPARTMENT BY AIRGRAM. HIGHLIGHTS FOLLOW.

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2. LIBERATION STRUGGLES: TRIUMPHS HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED IN

MOZAMBIQUE, ANGOLA, VIET NAM AND CAMBODIA BUT RACIST AND FASCIST REGIMES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA STILL CONSTITUTE AN AFFRONT TO HUMAN DIGNITY AND A THREAT TO WORLD PEACE. VICTORY, WHILE INEVITABLE, IS NOT AUTOMATIC AND ALL NAM MEMBERS MUST SUPPORT THE STRUGGLE WITH DEEDS AS WELL AS WORDS.

3. MIDDLE EAST: THE PALESTINIANS, SAID BURNHAM, REMAIN A PEOPLE WITHOUT A HOME, "ROBBED OF THEIR RIGHTS IN THE COUNTRY OF THEIR ORIGIN". NAM MEMBERS SHOULD NOT REST UNTIL THE SITUATION IS CORRECTED. OF ISRAEL, HE HAD READ IN THE PRESS THAT IT "WILL SHORTLY BE DELIVERING TWOMISSILE SHIPS TO SOUTH AFRICA AS PART OF A PROGRAM OF BROAD COOPERATION BETWEEN THOSE TWO COUNTRIES. DOES THIS NOT VALIDATE THE THESIS THAT ZIONISM IS A FORM OF RACISM?"

4. KOREA: HIS ONLY MENTION OF KOREA WAS TO REFER TO IT AMONG "OTHER POLITICAL OBJECTIVES TO BE ACHIEVED, LIKE... AND THE PEACEFUL REUNIFICATION OF KOREA".

5. IMPERIALISM: IT IS NOT YET DEAD, AS EVIDENCED BY THE "SUCCESSFUL DESTABILIZATION OF A PROGRESSIVE REGIME IN CHILE..." IMPERIALISM NOW USES ECONOMIC PRESSURES, MILITARY THREATS AND INTERNAL SUBVERSION TO DOMINATE SMALL AND MIDDLE-SIZE STATES WHICH ARE TRYING TO FASHION "A NEW WAY OF LIFE FOR THEIR PEOPLE".

6. NEW ECONOMIC ORDER: THE "OLD AND SORRY SCHEME OF THINGS MUST BE RADICALLY CHANGED", BUT THE CHANGE WILL NOT COME ABOUT BY VERBAL CONDEMNATION OF THE RICH OR BY "OUR ADOPTING A POSTURE OF MENDICANCY COUPLED WITH AN APPEAL TO NON-EXISTENT FORMS OF MORALITY". RATHER NAM MEMBERS SHOULD ACT AS A GROUP, POOL THEIR RESOURCES AND THEREBY ENSURE FAIR DISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH AND ENHANCE THEIR BARGAINING POSITION VIS-A-VIS THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. MEMBERS SHOULD NOT SELL THEIR BIRTHRIGHTS "FOR A MESS OF POTTAGE" AND ALLOW THEMSELVES TO BE "USED AS INSTRUMENTS OF THE GREEDY "HAVES" AGAINST OUR FELLOW "HAVE NOTS". 7. THE SOVIET UNION AND OTHER COMMUNIST COUNTRIES: ALTHOUGH BURNHAM AVOIDED MENTIONING COUNTRIES BY NAME HE CALLED UPON THOSE WHO HAD BEEN HELPFUL WITH THEIR "HISTORIC ANALYSIS" OF EXPLOITATION "TO PROVE THEIR FRIENDSHIP BY PROVIDING MATERIAL AID AND ASSISTANCE WHETHER OR NOT THEY HAVE BEEN RESPONSIBLE HISTORICALLY FOR THE OLD SYSTEM".

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8. BURNHAM ENDORSED THE IDEA OF A "NEWS POOL" OPERATED BY NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES AND SUPPORTED THE CONCEPT OF HAVING THE INDIAN OCEAN RECOGNIZED AS A ZONE OF PEACE. THE NAM SHOULD ALSO USE ITS INFLUENCE TO END THE ARMS RACE.

9. PRESS COVERAGE OF BURNHAM SPEECH: UNTIL THE FULL TEXTS WERE FINALLY PUBLISHED AUGUST 29, THE ONLY SUBSTANTIVE MENTION OF

BURNHAM'S STATEMENT AT THE NASC WAS CONTAINED IN AN ARTICLE IN THE AUGUST 20 "CHRONICLE". INTERESTINGLY, THE ARTICLE HAD NO MENTION OF HIS COMMENTS ON IMPERIALISM (PARA 5 ABOVE), OR THE MIDDLE EAST. IT CONFINED ITS COVERAGE TO HIS CALL FOR A FAIR DISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH AND ASSISTANCE TO SOUTHERN AFRICAN FREEDOM FIGHTERS AND FOLLOWED HIS JAB AT THE SOCIALIST STATES (PARA 7 ABOVE) WITH THE FOLLOWING COMMENT: "CONFERENCE SOURCES FELT THAT CDE BURNHAM WAS MAKING A REFERENCE HERE TO THE LACK OF MATERIAL ENTHUSIASM FROM THE SOCIALIST STATES ON THE DEMAND FOR A NEW ECONOMIC ORDER". ALTHOUGH BOTH BURNHAM AND FONMIN WILLS TOLD ME THAT BURNHAM HAD CRITICIZED THE ARABS, WE FIND NO REFERENCE TO SUCH CRITICISM IN THE TEXT HE GAVE US OR IN THE PRESS REPORTS.

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